



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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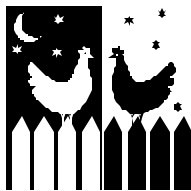
WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 24, 2001
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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady in the Midwest, mostly steady to fully steady elsewhere. Retail demand was slow to moderate, mostly slow, with limited retail features present. Food service was light to moderate, best for fast food. Supplies were usually adequate with smaller sizes closer balanced to tight in the Northeast. In the parts structure, bone-in breasts were tight, and the remaining breast items were no more than adequate and moving aided by retail ads. Wings were more available as demand tapered off as Super Bowl nears, and dark meat was mixed with inquiries up for thighs. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES

The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 61.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 58.00 cents last year on the 26th of January, 2000.

DOCK PRICE

| ITEM | (CENTS PER POUND) |
|------------------|-------------------|
| BREASTS - B/S | 132.50 |
| BREASTS - WHOLE | 68.00 |
| THIGH MEAT - B/S | 84.50 |
| LEG QUARTERS | 23.00 |
| WINGS | 94.00 |

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

| 15 STATES | PERCENT CHANGE | | |
|----------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|
| WEEK ENDING 01/20/01 | 2001 | 2000 | PREVIOUS YEAR |
| EGGS SET | 179,555 | 181,734 | -01 |
| CHICKS PLACED | 142,237 | 145,179 | -02 |

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES DOWN 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 180 million eggs in incubators during the week ending January 20, 2001. This was down 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 142 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 20, 2001. Placements were down 2 percent from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through January 20, 2001 were 428 million, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 03-Mar-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.0 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 148.1 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 152.7 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 154.1 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 53.04 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady on regular commitments with asking prices for new negotiations trending higher. Offerings were adequate. Retailer demand was moderate overall best to cover features. Floor stocks adequate. The market tone on parts was firm for breasts and about steady for balance of parts.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was slow to moderate, best for retail ads and fast food specials. Supplies were well balanced for trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were tight for bone-in and fronts, in balance for the remaining with boneless skinless receiving increased interest aided by retail features. Wings were still moving, but questionable after next week's Super Bowl game, and dark meat was closer balanced and also obtained additional interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy with some weekend processing planned to adjust weights.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady. Additional Wog and whole bird offerings limited for the very light trade needs. Movement into retail accounts was seasonally slow to light with food service demand much the same although an occasional moderate was noted in the Chicago area. Most operators confident demand will improve for the upcoming weekend barring any deteriorating weather conditions. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with weights in a desirable range. Parts offerings were light to moderate for the slow to fair market activity. Supplies were generally balanced with bone-in breasts in the tightest position and leg quarters fully adequate. The trade sentiment was most steady on all items, occasionally fully steady to firm on breast items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly light to no better than fair during midweek trading. Offerings of the 3.5 pound and larger birds were at least adequate to available at times, but the smaller sizes were usually adequate to better balanced. Movement through retail and distributive channels remained slow. The market tone was steady on the larger birds, fully steady to instances firm on the smaller sizes. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were tight, and boneless-skinless were about adequate to closely cleared. Wings were at least sufficient, and dark meat cuts were readily available

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was slow to fair. Seller offerings were adequate to tight and were in the closer balance on the 3 pound sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights remained mostly desirable to heavier than desired. Processing schedules were reduced at several plants and were just moderate in total. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 52 to 66 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady on the 2.5 and 3 pound sizes, steady on the heavier weights. Breast cuts, particularly bone-in continued to clear well and increased inquiry was noted for thighs. Interest in additional wings was off sharply.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

| | BRANDED U.S. GRADE A |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| RANGE | 44-66 |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE | 56.35 |
| NO. OF BOXES | 11,446 |
| *7 of 8 plants reporting. | |

JANUARY 23, 2001

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

JANUARY 24, 2001

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

| POUNDS | | | | | POUNDS | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| ITEM | (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG | ITEM | (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG |
| BREAST - B/S | 709 | 110.00-202.00 | 125-135 | 131.05 | BREAST - B/S | 800 | 115.00-202.00 | 125-135 | 134.50 |
| TENDERLOINS | 190 | 130.00-190.00 | 145-150 | 146.58 | TENDERLOINS | 65 | 135.00-190.00 | 140-145 | 155.77 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 125 | 64.00-68.00 | 65-67 | 65.42 | BREAST - LINE RUN | 126 | 64.00-69.00 | 64-66 | 65.06 |
| FRONT HALVES | 110 | 54.00-59.00 | - | 56.14 | FRONT HALVES | 70 | 57.00-62.00 | - | 59.50 |
| LEGS | 127 | 27.00-41.00 | 29-30 | 28.72 | LEGS | 127 | 27.00-41.00 | 27-30 | 28.72 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 484 | 16.50-20.00 | 17-19 | 18.04 | LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 396 | 16.50-20.00 | 17-18 | 17.17 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,738 | 18.00-24.00 | 21-22 | 21.21 | LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,737 | 18.00-24.00 | 21-22 | 20.80 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 321 | 92.00-98.00 | 96-97 | 96.59 | WINGS (WHOLE) | 321 | 92.00-98.00 | 95-97 | 96.47 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 499 | 87.00-117.00 | 102-105 | 105.82 | WINGS (CUT) | 508 | 87.00-122.00 | 103-106 | 106.63 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| B/S THIGHS | 82 | 77.00-83.00 | - | 80.07 | B/S THIGHS | 82 | 78.00-83.00 | - | 80.56 |

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

| RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | 5-DAY AVERAGE |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 35.25 - 39.50 | 37.09 | 36.75 - 41.00 | 38.34 | 36.59 |

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was generally unaggressive during midweek trading, and most dealers were cautious and limiting floorstocks to most immediate needs. Offerings of bone-in breasts remained tight, and boneless-skinless breasts were usually balanced to no more than adequate. Dark meat parts were more than sufficient, and wings were at least adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was mostly light, however, attractive feature activity on breast items was funneling some additional product from the market. The market tone was fully steady to firm on bone-in breasts, fully steady to instances firm on boneless-skinless breasts, about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

| JANUARY 23, 2001 | | | | JANUARY 24, 2001 | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------|---------|----------------------------|-------------|--------|---------|
| ITEM | CURRENT NEG | WTD | | ITEM | CURRENT NEG | WTD | |
| | TRADING* | AVG** | VOL/LBS | | TRADING* | AVG** | VOL/LBS |
| BREAST - B/S | 125-130 | 123.38 | 739,100 | BREAST - B/S | 130 | 127.04 | 618,480 |
| TENDERLOINS | 130-135 | 132.05 | 147,890 | TENDERLOINS | 130-135 | 133.16 | 91,000 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 61-62 | 67.25 | 251,920 | BREAST - WITH RIBS | 63-64 | 68.87 | 232,880 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 61 | 64.53 | 233,600 | BREAST - LINE RUN | 63 | 66.61 | 236,000 |
| LEGS | 33-34 | 35.36 | 258,880 | LEGS | 33-34 | 36.38 | 181,400 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 20-21 | 21.39 | 546,344 | LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 20-21 | 20.93 | 484,446 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 28-29 | 33.50 | 169,980 | DRUMSTICKS | 28-29 | 33.18 | 158,730 |
| THIGHS | 29-30 | 31.64 | 192,660 | THIGHS | 29-30 | 31.19 | 159,310 |
| B/S THIGHS | 78-79 | 82.57 | 42,660 | B/S THIGHS | 79-80 | 82.57 | 54,360 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 90-91 | 100.03 | 309,250 | WINGS (WHOLE) | 90-91 | 99.72 | 301,810 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 12.02 | 69,720 | BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 11.86 | 73,200 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 30-35 | 37.02 | 36,125 | LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 30-35 | 38.50 | 31,880 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 50-55 | 60.10 | 85,690 | GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 45-50 | 54.70 | 95,480 |

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

| | ESTIMATED | | ACTUAL | | AVG WTS | | ACTUAL | | AVG WTS |
|-------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|--------|-------|-----------|
| | 01/24 | 01/23 | 01/22 | 01/19 | 01/22 | 01/19 | 01/17 | 01/15 | |
| ALA | 3,485 | 3,815 | 3,815 | 3,899 | 5.05 | 4.96 | 3,687 | 4.97 | |
| ARK | 5,271 | 5,237 | 4,896 | 5,325 | 4.87 | 4.94 | 4,972 | 4.95 | |
| DELMARVA | 2,212 | 2,308 | 2,298 | 2,274 | 5.03 | 4.95 | 2,245 | 5.27 | |
| KY-LA-TN | 1,943 | 1,936 | 1,603 | 1,905 | 4.72 | 4.37 | 1,890 | 4.36 | |
| MISS | 2,751 | 2,707 | 2,727 | 2,850 | 5.07 | 4.91 | 2,728 | 4.51 | |
| NC | 2,625 | 2,600 | 2,529 | 2,600 | 5.87 | 5.72 | 2,412 | 5.70 | |
| TEXAS | 2,168 | 2,316 | 2,311 | 2,372 | 4.92 | 4.77 | 2,250 | 4.63 | |
| TOTAL | 20,455 | 20,919 | 20,179 | 21,225 | 5.07 | 4.97 | 20,184 | 4.93 | |
| MON-WED 61,879(A) | | | | | | | | | 55,016(A) |

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 24-Jan 01

and is estimated to be 30,603,000 down 1.83 percent from a week ago and up 10.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 27,594,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

| DELIVERED TO RETAILERS | RANGE |
|------------------------|-------|
| FRESH FRYERS | 81-84 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | 71-90 |
| HENS UNDER 5# | - |
| HENS OVER 5# | 81 |
| DUCKS | 139 |
| RABBITS-WHOLE | 294 |
| RABBITS-CUT UP | 299 |

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

| | | |
|------------------|----------|---------|
| FRESH FRYERS | ICE PACK | 93-96 |
| | DRY PACK | 103-106 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | ICE PACK | 105-112 |
| | DRY PACK | 112-119 |
| HENS OVER 5# | ICE PACK | 98 |
| | DRY PACK | 94 |
| DUCKS | | 152-166 |

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING JAN-27-01

| | CURRENT WEEK | PREVIOUS WEEK |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | 01/27/01 (1) | 01/20/01 |
| CLASS | THOUSAND HEAD | |
| BRO-FRY | 154,601 (2) | 148,446 |
| LT HENS | 1,955 | 1,729 |
| HVY HENS | 1,371 | 1,357 |
| CHECK TOTAL | 157,927 | 151,532 |

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Jan-01 is 153.1 million head compared to 146.1 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 154.9 million head or 1.8 million more than estimated available. For week of 03-Feb-01 the estimated available is 152.3 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEY | PROCESSED POULTRY |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | LBS | LBS |
| AM 22-Jan-01 | 90,182 | 73,618 |
| AM 1-Jan-01 | 68,786 | 74,663 |
| CHG | 21,396 | -1,045 |
| PCT CHG | 31 | -1 |

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEYS | | | PROCESSED POULTRY | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 01/22/01 | 01/15/01 | 01/24/00 | 01/22/01 | 01/15/01 | 01/24/00 |
| PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES | 4,554 | 4,681 | 3,085 | 5,628 | 5,516 | 12,586 |
| | 102 | 100 | 149 | 2,104 | 1,771 | 3,218 |

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 01/23/01

| | LOW | HIGH | AVG | | LOW | HIGH | AVG |
|------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| HEAVY FOWL lb. | - | .85 | - | HEAVY FOWL ea. | - | - | - |
| LIGHT FOWL lb. | - | - | - | LIGHT FOWL ea. | - | - | - |
| MIXED FOWL lb. | .50 | .90 | .73 | MIXED FOWL ea. | - | - | - |
| BANTAMS lb. | - | - | - | BANTAMS ea. | - | - | - |
| BROILERS lb. | - | - | - | BROILERS ea. | - | 2.00 | - |
| ROASTERS lb. | - | - | - | ROASTERS ea. | - | - | - |
| FRYERS lb. | - | - | - | FRYERS ea. | - | - | - |
| CHICKS lb. | - | - | - | CHICKS ea. | - | - | - |
| PULLETS lb. | - | - | - | PULLETS ea. | - | - | - |
| BUNNIES lb. | - | - | - | BUNNIES ea. | - | 2.25 | - |
| ROOSTERS lb. | .60 | .75 | .68 | ROOSTERS ea. | - | - | - |
| GEESE lb. | - | .20 | - | GEESE ea. | - | - | - |
| TURKEYS lb. | - | - | - | TURKEYS ea. | - | - | - |
| DUCKS lb. | .65 | .85 | .76 | DUCKS ea. | - | - | - |
| RABBITS lb. | .40 | 1.35 | .89 | RABBITS ea. | - | 2.00 | - |
| PIGEONS lb. | - | - | - | PIGEONS ea. | 1.50 | 3.75 | - |
| GUINEA FOWL lb. | - | - | - | GUINEA FOWL ea. | 2.50 | 3.75 | - |
| GUINEA KEETS ea. | - | - | - | CALL DUCKS ea. | - | - | - |
| SILKIES ea. | - | - | - | GOSLINGS ea. | - | - | - |
| GUINEA PIGS ea. | - | - | - | | | | |

TOTAL COOPS 55

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 2001

| | RANGE |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) | 56-62 |
| VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX) | 59-69 |

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending January 19, 2001

| | Whole Chickens | Breasts | Legs w/Thighs | Necks,Backs Wings | Livers/Gizzards | Hens |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| RAYON | | | | | | |
| Low | 57.43 | 128.65 | 91.89 | 22.97 | 5.51 | 41.35 |
| High | 62.03 | 147.02 | 105.67 | 36.76 | 9.19 | 43.65 |
| Mostly | 62.03 | 137.83 | 96.48 | 32.16 | 6.89 | 41.35 |
| SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 57.43 | 133.24 | 82.70 | 25.27 | 5.51 | 43.65 |
| High | 59.27 | 151.62 | 105.67 | 34.46 | 9.19 | 45.94 |
| Mostly | 57.43 | 137.83 | 91.89 | 32.16 | 6.89 | 43.65 |
| NEW SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 57.89 | 133.24 | 82.70 | 20.68 | 5.51 | 43.65 |
| High | 62.49 | 151.62 | 110.27 | 39.05 | 9.19 | 45.94 |
| Mostly | 60.65 | 147.02 | 96.48 | 29.86 | 6.89 | 43.65 |
| BECERRA | | | | | | |
| Low | 59.27 | 133.24 | 82.70 | 22.97 | 5.51 | 41.35 |
| High | 60.65 | 156.21 | 110.27 | 36.76 | 9.19 | 41.35 |
| Mostly | 59.73 | 137.83 | 101.08 | 32.16 | 8.27 | 41.35 |

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

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| Washington, DC | Voice | (202)720-6911 | Grover T. Hunter |
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| Atlanta, GA | Voice | (404)562-5850 | Johnny Freeman |
| | Fax | (404)562-5875 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (404)562-5856 | |
| Jackson, MS | Voice | (601)965-4662 | Gary Brown |
| | Fax | (601)965-4661 | (Southeast Supervisor) |
| Des Moines, IA | Voice | (515)284-4471 | Mary L. Adkins |
| | Fax | (515)284-4468 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (515)284-4545 | |
| Bell, CA | Voice | (323)269-4154 | Jim Derby |
| | Fax | (323)269-5926 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (323)260-4676 | |